

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

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In re

SEARS HOLDINGS CORPORATION, *et al.*,

Debtors.¹
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Chapter 11

Case No. 18-23538 (RDD)

(Jointly Administered)

**STIPULATION, AGREEMENT AND ORDER
GRANTING LIMITED RELIEF FROM THE AUTOMATIC STAY**

This stipulation, agreement, and order (the “**Stipulation**”) is entered into by and among Sears Holdings Management Corporation and Kmart Corporation, (collectively, “**Sears**”), Home City Ice Company (“**Home City Ice**”), and Kristen Epps (the “**Claimant**”). Sears, Home City Ice, and the Claimant collectively are referred to in this Stipulation as the “**Parties**,” and, each, as a “**Party**.” The Parties hereby stipulate and agree as follows:

RECITALS

A. WHEREAS, on October 15, 2018 (the “**Commencement Date**”), Sears and certain of its affiliates (collectively, the “**Debtors**”) commenced with this Court voluntary cases

¹ The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification number, are as follows: Sears Holdings Corporation (0798); Kmart Holding Corporation (3116); Kmart Operations LLC (6546); Sears Operations LLC (4331); Sears, Roebuck and Co. (0680); ServiceLive Inc. (6774); SHC Licensed Business LLC (3718); A&E Factory Service, LLC (6695); A&E Home Delivery, LLC (0205); A&E Lawn & Garden, LLC (5028); A&E Signature Service, LLC (0204); FBA Holdings Inc. (6537); Innovel Solutions, Inc. (7180); Kmart Corporation (9500); MaxServ, Inc. (7626); Private Brands, Ltd. (4022); Sears Development Co. (6028); Sears Holdings Management Corporation (2148); Sears Home & Business Franchises, Inc. (6742); Sears Home Improvement Products, Inc. (8591); Sears Insurance Services, L.L.C. (7182); Sears Procurement Services, Inc. (2859); Sears Protection Company (1250); Sears Protection Company (PR) Inc. (4861); Sears Roebuck Acceptance Corp. (0535); Sears, Roebuck de Puerto Rico, Inc. (3626); SYW Relay LLC (1870); Wally Labs LLC (None); SHC Promotions LLC (9626); Big Beaver of Florida Development, LLC (None); California Builder Appliances, Inc. (6327); Florida Builder Appliances, Inc. (9133); KBL Holding Inc. (1295); KLC, Inc. (0839); Kmart of Michigan, Inc. (1696); Kmart of Washington LLC (8898); Kmart Stores of Illinois LLC (8897); Kmart Stores of Texas LLC (8915); MyGofer LLC (5531); Sears Brands Business Unit Corporation (4658); Sears Holdings Publishing Company, LLC. (5554); Sears Protection Company (Florida), L.L.C. (4239); SHC Desert Springs, LLC (None); SOE, Inc. (9616); StarWest, LLC (5379); STI Merchandising, Inc. (0188); Troy Coolidge No. 13, LLC (None); BlueLight.com, Inc. (7034); Sears Brands, L.L.C. (4664); Sears Buying Services, Inc. (6533); Kmart.com LLC (9022); and Sears Brands Management Corporation (5365). The location of the Debtors’ corporate headquarters is 3333 Beverly Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60179.

under chapter 11 of title 11 of the United States Code (the “**Bankruptcy Code**”) in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (the “**Bankruptcy Court**”).

B. WHEREAS, on August 17, 2015, the Claimant commenced an action, with the caption *Kristen Epps v. The Home City Ice Company, et al.* (the “**Prepetition Action**”), that is pending in the Circuit Court for the Twenty-First Judicial Circuit, Kankakee County, IL (the “**State Court**”), against Sears Home City Ice. The Prepetition Action involves claims asserted by the Claimant for alleged injuries sustained as a result of falling while on the premises owned by, controlled by, and/or maintained by Sears.

C. WHEREAS, Sears, through Sedgwick Claims Management Services, tendered to Home City Ice in March of 2016.

D. WHEREAS the insurance carrier for Home City Ice, the Cincinnati Insurance Company (“**Cincinnati Insurance Co.**”), accepted the tender on or about April 1, 2018.

E. WHEREAS, the Parties have agreed, subject to approval of the Bankruptcy Court, to modify the Automatic Stay pursuant to section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code for the limited purpose and subject to the terms and conditions set forth below.

NOW, THEREFORE, UPON THE FOREGOING RECITALS, WHICH ARE INCORPORATED AS THOUGH FULLY SET FORTH HEREIN, IT HEREBY IS STIPULATED AND AGREED, BY AND BETWEEN THE PARTIES, THROUGH THE UNDERSIGNED, AND UPON COURT APPROVAL HEREOF, IT SHALL BE ORDERED THAT:

1. This Stipulation shall have no force or effect unless and until approved by the Bankruptcy Court (the “**Effective Date**”).

2. Upon the Effective Date, the Automatic Stay solely shall be modified to the extent necessary solely to the permit the Claimant to obtain recovery from the insurance proceeds of Home City Ice’s insurer, to the extent such proceeds are available; provided, that all other

provisions of the Automatic Stay, including, without limitation, those provisions prohibiting the commencement or continuation of any other judicial proceeding against Sears or the Debtors that was or could have been commenced prior to the Commencement Date, and those provisions prohibiting the Claimant from any act to collect, assess, or recover a claim that arose prior to the Commencement Date from the respective estates and/or assets or property of any of the Debtors (as defined in section 541 of the Bankruptcy Code), shall remain in full force and effect.

3. As of the Effective Date, the Claimant hereby agrees to waive any right to recovery in the Prepetition Action against Sears and the Debtors and any other party that may assert indemnification claims against the Debtors, including any prepetition claims, and shall exclusively be limited to obtaining any recovery in the Prepetition Action from the proceeds of Home City Ice's insurance policy, as provided in Paragraph 2 herein. .

4. All rights under Section 1542 of the California Civil Code, or any analogous state or federal law, are hereby expressly WAIVED, if applicable, with respect to any of the claims, injuries, or damages described in this Stipulation. Section 1542 of the California Civil Code reads as follows:

“A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.”

5. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as a waiver by any of the Debtors of their right to object to any and all proofs of claim relating to the Prepetition Action or any other pending prepetition action to which the Debtors are a party that may be filed the Claimant in the Debtors' chapter 11 cases.

6. The limited relief set forth herein shall not be construed as an admission of liability by the Debtors, any of their non-debtor affiliates, or Home City Ice, regarding any claim or cause of action arising from or in relation to the Prepetition Action or any other matter.

7. Nothing herein (i) alters, amends or otherwise modifies the terms and conditions of any insurance policies issued to the Debtors or of any related agreements; (ii) creates or permits a direct right of action by the Claimant against any of the Debtors' insurers; (iii) precludes or limits, in any way, the rights of any insurer to contest and/or litigate the existence, primacy and/or scope of available coverage under any allegedly applicable policy, or to otherwise assert any defenses to coverage; or (iv) constitutes a determination or admission that coverage exists with respect to the Claimant's claims.

8. To the extent applicable, the Automatic Stay is hereby modified, if and to the extent necessary, to permit any insurer from which coverage is sought pursuant to Claimant's claims (or any third party administrator with respect to such claims) to administer, handle, defend, settle, and/or pay such claims in the ordinary course of business and without further order of this Bankruptcy Court.

9. Nothing herein alters or amends the terms and conditions of the Court's *Final Order Authorizing Debtors to (I) Continue, Maintain, and Renew Their Insurance Policies and Workers' Compensation Programs; (II) Honor All Obligations With Respect Thereto; and (III) Modify the Automatic Stay With Respect to the Workers' Compensation Program* (ECF No. 792).

10. This Stipulation shall constitute the entire agreement and understanding of the Parties relating to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings relating to the subject matter hereof.

11. The undersigned who executes this Stipulation by or on behalf of each respective Party represents and warrants that he or she has been duly authorized and empowered to execute and deliver this Stipulation on behalf of such Party.

12. This Stipulation may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument, and it shall constitute sufficient proof of this Stipulation to present any copies, electronic copies, or facsimiles signed by the Parties here to be charged.

13. This Stipulation shall not be modified, altered, amended or vacated without the written consent of all Parties hereto or by further order of the Bankruptcy Court.

14. Notwithstanding the applicability of Bankruptcy Rule 4001(a)(3), the terms and provisions of this Stipulation immediately shall be effective and enforceable upon the Effective Date, and shall thereafter be binding upon the Parties hereto and their respective affiliates, successors and any authorized assigns.

15. This Stipulation shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York, except to the extent that the Bankruptcy Code applies, without regard to principles of conflicts of law that would require the application of laws of another jurisdiction.

16. The Bankruptcy Court shall retain jurisdiction to resolve any disputes or controversies arising from this Stipulation.

(Signature Page Follows)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Stipulation has been executed and delivered as of the day
and year first below written.

Dated: March 4, 2020

By: /s/ Garrett A. Fail
Ray C. Schrock, P.C.
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*Attorneys for Debtors
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Dated: March 4, 2020

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Attorney for Claimant

Dated: March 4, 2020

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Attorneys for Home City Ice

SO ORDERED

Dated: March 18, 2020
White Plains, New York

/s/Robert D. Drain
THE HONORABLE ROBERT D. DRAIN
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE